



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**Region 6**

**1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200**

**Dallas, TX 75202-2733**

March 17, 2014

Mr. Jim Stovall  
Field Manager, Carlsbad Field Office  
U.S. Department of Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
620 East Greene Street  
Carlsbad, NM 88220

RE: Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for Ochoa Potash Mine Project in  
Lea County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Stovall:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 office in Dallas, Texas has completed its review of the FEIS prepared by the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

EPA provided comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on September 23, 2013, in which the DEIS was rated as "EC-2", i.e., EPA has "environmental concerns and requests additional information". EPA is pleased that the FEIS includes additional analysis of the proposed action to address our concerns. We have no additional comments and look forward to the receipt of the Record of Decision document.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the FEIS. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kimeka Price of my staff at (214)665-7438 or via email at [price.kimeka@epa.gov](mailto:price.kimeka@epa.gov) for assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Debra A. Griffin", is positioned above the printed name.

Debra A. Griffin  
Associate Director  
Compliance Assurance and  
Enforcement Division